

Message Text

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21

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

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FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3832

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

CINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

UNCLAS LUANDA 0954

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT MILI PINS AO

SUBJECT: INCIDENTS IN THE INTERIOR; CHIPENDA SPEAKS

CINCEUR AND CINCLANT FOR POLAD

1. ACCORDING TO THE PORTUGUESE AUTHORITIES, A NUMBER OF CITIES EAST OF LUANDA HAVE BEEN HIT BY VIOLENCE DURING THE PAST FEW DAYS AND HUNDREDS OF RESIDENTS HAVE FLED. HENRIQUE DE CARVALHO IS SAID TO BE ALMOST DESERTED AND LOOTING OCCURRED ON A LARGE SCALE AFTER FIGHTING BETWEEN FNLA AND MPLA. MANY PEOPLE TOOK REFUGE AT THE PORTUGUESE AIRBASE NEAR THE CITY AND SOME HAVE BEEN FLOWN TO LUANDA. RESIDENTS OF THE NEARBY TOWN OF DONDO ARE ALSO REPORTED TO HAVE ASKED FOR HELP IN GETTING OUT.

2. ABOUT 500 RESIDENTS OF DALATANDO (SALAZAR) ARRIVED IN LUANDA BY TRAIN ON JULY 20. MOST WERE EMPLOYEES AND UNCLASSIFIED

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DEPENDENTS OF THE RAILWAY COMPANY. EARLIER, SOME 800 RESIDENTS

OF DALATANDO WERE REPORTED TO HAVE FLED TOWARD HENRIQUE DE CARVALHO, ONLY TO GET CAUGHT IN THE FIGHTING THERE. REPORTS HAVE REACHED LUANDA THAT THE TRACKS HAVE BEEN REMOVED FROM THE LINE BEYOND DALATANDO. REPORTS DO NOT INDICATE WHO TOOK UP THE RAILS, BUT SOME SOURCES INDICATE THAT FNLA WAS RESPONSIBLE.

3. ONE OF THE AIR FORCE TRANSPORT PLANES ENGAGED IN FLYING REFUGEES TO CARMONA FROM LUANDA WAS HIT BY SMALL ARMS FIRE ON JULY 20 AND A CREWMAN KILLED. THE HIGH COMMISSIONER ISSUED A STATEMENT IN WHICH HE DID NOT SPECIFY WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE, BUT HE DID SAY "ONE OF THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS." IN THE FUTURE, HE SAID, THE AIR FORCE WILL RESPOND TO ANY ATTACKS ON ITS PLANES.

4. THE HIGH COMMISSIONER ALSO DENOUNCED AN FNLA COMMUNIQUE IN WHICH INTERIOR MINISTER N'GOLA KABANGU ACCUSED THE PORTUGUESE MILITARY OF SIDING WITH THE MPLA. THE HIGH COMMISSIONER REJECTED THE CHARGE, LAID RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PRESENT CHAOS AT THE DOOR OF THE FNLA AND MPLA AND CONSIDERED THE FANTASTIC CHARGES EXTREMELY GRAVE, ESPECIALLY AS THEY WERE MADE BY FNLA'S HIGHEST RANKING OFFICIAL IN ANGOLA.

5. IN BENGUELA, A MAN WAS REFUSED ENTRY TO A DANCEHALL WHEN HE REFUSED TO PAY, THREW A GRENADE INTO THE CROWD, KILLING TWO AND INJURING 48 PEOPLE. THE SPREAD THAT MPLA WAS RESPONSIBLE AND THE LOCAL MPLA COMMANDER TOOK TO THE RADIO TO DENY THE CHARGE AND BLAME THE FNLA.

6. FNLA ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL DANIEL CHIPNDA BROADCAST A MESSAGE OVER NATIONAL RADIO FROM CARMONA IN WHICH HE CASTIGATED MPLA FOR TRYING TO TAKE OVER THE COUNTRY BY FORCE. CALLING MPLA IMPERIALIST AND NEO-COLONIALIST, CHIPENDA SAID THE FNLA WAS OBLIGED TO TAKE UP ARMS FOR THE REASON IT DID IN 1961 - TO FREE ANGOLA. HE BLAMED ANGOLA'S POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS ON THE MPLA AND CONTRASTED THE PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE NORTH WITH THE CHAOS IN LUANDA AND DALANTANDO. WHILE PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE VALIANT FNLA TROOPS, HE ADMITTED THEY ERRED FROM TIME TO TIME, BUT ONLY BECAUSE THEY WERE HIMAN. WITH HOLDEN ROBERTO, NOW IN ANGOLA, AT THEIR HEAD, HE CONCLUDED, FNLA FORCES WILL TRIUMPH AND BRING PEACE, DIGNITY AND WORK TO THE NATION.

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